

New Bright Carbon Stars Found In The DFBS. (Research note, submitted to Astrophysics)

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1 Introduction

Carbon rich stars of Population II, such as CH giants, can provide direct information on the role of low to intermediate mass stars of the Halo in early Galactic evolution. Moreover, accurate knowledge of the CH stellar population is a critical requirement for building up scenarios for early Galactic chemical evolution. The first list of the faint high latitude C stars (FHLCs), found in the Digitized First Byurakan Survey ¹ (DFBS [1]) is given in paper [2]. In the present work, we report the recent discovery of two additional CH type C stars (not previously catalogued), namely DFBS J075331.98+190344.3 and DFBS J111422.94+091442.7, detected on the DFBS plates with help of the image analysis softwares (FITSView and SAOImage DS9). Medium resolution spectra confirm the C rich nature for both of them. Using infrared color magnitude relationship, we estimated the distances and K band absolute magnitudes to the new objects.

2 Optical Spectroscopy And Photometry

For our stars follow up photometry (Johnson B,V, R) and moderate resolution CCD spectra (spectral range 3900-8500Å, dispersion 3.9 Å/pix) were obtained on 12/13 March 2012, with the 1.52 m Cassini telescope of the Bologna (Italy) Astronomical Observatory at Loiano (equipped with the Bologna Faint Object Spectrometer and Camera BFOSC, 1300x1340 pix,EEV P129915 CCD). All the spectroscopic

¹<http://byurakan.phys.uniroma1.it> and <http://www.aras.am/Dfbs/dfbs.html>

Table 1: The Journal Of Observations For The New DFBS C Stars.

DFBS Number	l deg	b deg	B mag	V mag	R mag	Sp.type	$E(B - V)$ mag
J075331.98+190344.3	202.0349	+21.9656	13.36	11.67	10.98	CH	0.044
J111422.94+081442.7	247.8378	+60.2703	12.96	11.69	11.14	CH	0.031

and photometric data were reduced by means of standard IRAF ² procedures. For these stars Table 1 presents: the DFBS identification, which includes the equatorial coordinates; the galactic coordinates l and b ; the B,V,R magnitudes (typical errors are 0.05 mag); the spectral class (see chapter 3) determined from the CCD spectra and the value of $E(B-V)$ along the line of sight to the stars, computed using the Galactic reddening maps of Schlegel et al.[3]. The spectra are shown in Fig. 1, where on Y axis we plotted relative fluxes, corrected for the atmospheric extinction.

3 Spectral Types And Characteristics

The new data were analyzed to clarify the subclass of the new C stars. The spectra show strong G-band of CH molecule at 4300Å, which is a main spectroscopic characteristic feature of CH-type stars[4, 5]. Also, they show the secondary P- branch of the G-band (with head at 4342Å), clearly indicating the belonging of these objects to the class of CH giants [6]. Prominent features of the C2 molecule at 4737, 5165, 5636Å, those in the region 6000 – 6200Å, the ¹³CN band near 6360Å, and the atomic lines 4554 and 4935Å of BaII are very well expressed. Near infrared photometric data were also considered for the new C stars. Table 2 presents the 2MASS magnitudes(available online at <http://irsa.ipac.caltech.edu>) and the $J - H$ and $H - K$ colors, transformed to the SAAO photometric system according to the formulae by Koen et al, [7] and corrected for the interstellar extinction according to [3]. The uncertainties are 0.040 and 0.046 mag for the colors of J075331.98+190344.3 and J111422.94+081442.7, respectively. In the $J - H$ vs. $H - K$ diagram of Fig.3 by Totten et al. [8], where the different carbon classes were established, the colors of the two stars are typical for CH-type C stars, confirming the spectral classification (see papers [8, 9] for more details).

² IRAF is distributed by the NOAO which is operated by AURA under contract with NFS

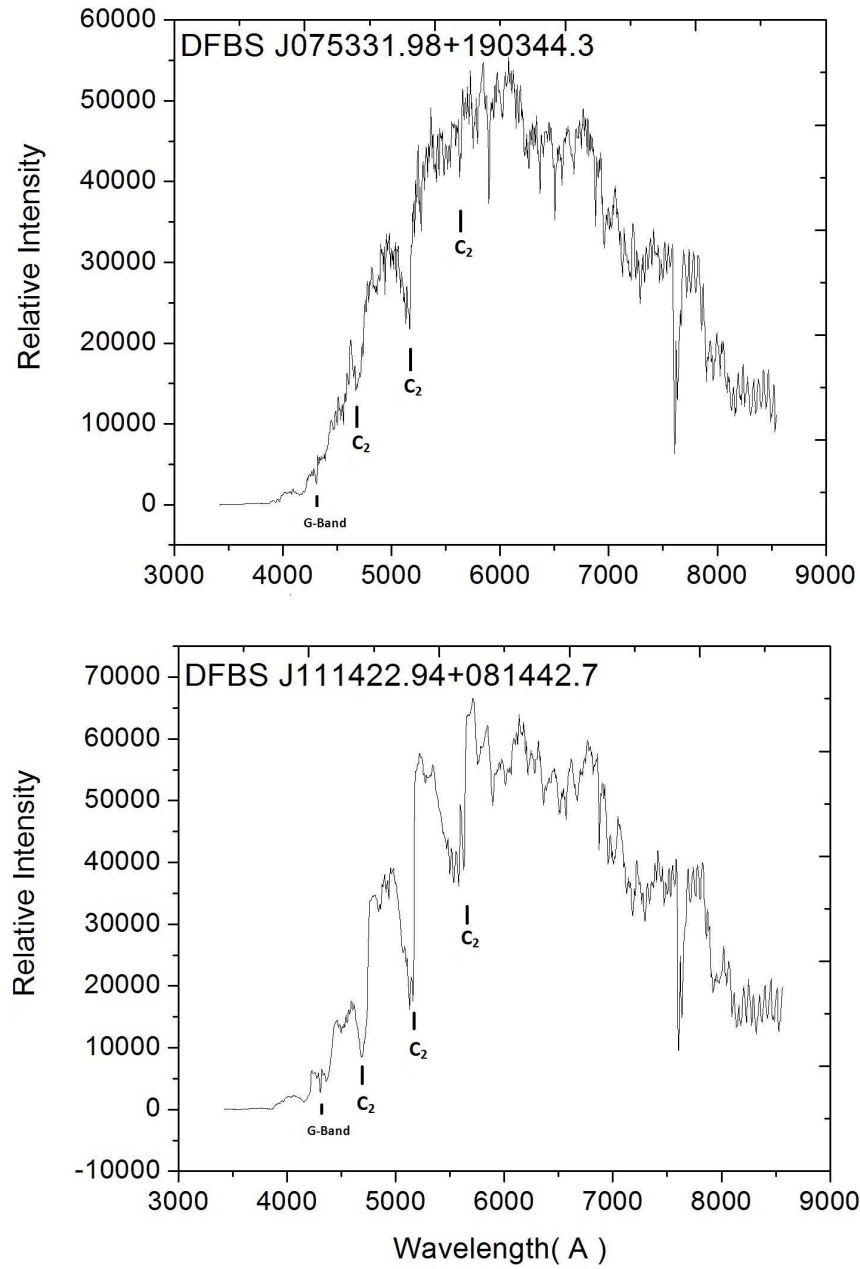


Figure 1: Medium resolution CCD spectra in the range 3500-8500Å for the new detected DFBS C stars. The absorption band heads of the C₂ molecule and G-band of the CH molecule is indicated. The Y axis is intensity in relative units.

Table 2: 2MASS Photometric Data For The New DFBS C Stars

DFBS Number	2MASS Number	J mag	H mag	K_S mag	$J - H$ mag	$H - K$ mag
J075331.98+190344.3	J07533198+1903441	9.224	8.462	8.272	0.87	0.15
J111422.94+081442.7	J11142294+0814427	9.544	8.940	8.796	0.69	0.11

4 Luminosities And Distances.

To compute the absolute magnitudes M_K and the distances to the new detected objects we used the empirical color magnitude relationship:

$$\text{Log}(M_K + 9.0) = 1.14 - 0.65(J - K) \quad (1)$$

obtained by Totten et al.[8] from a selected sample of C giants in nearby Galactic satellite systems and successfully applied to all their faint high latitude carbon stars. Table 3 presents the absolute K band magnitudes M_K , in the SAAO system, Heliocentric distances (D), and the distance to the Galactic plane(Z).

Table 3: Absolute K band magnitudes and distances to the DFBS C Stars

DFBS Number	M_K (mag)	$D(\text{kpc})$	$Z(\text{kpc})$
J075331.98+190344.3	-5.80 ± 0.2	6.3 ± 0.7	2.4 ± 0.7
J111422.94+081442.7	-4.75 ± 0.2	5.2 ± 0.6	4.5 ± 0.6

5 Summary

Optical spectra in the range 3500-8500Å and photometric data for two carbon stars found in the Digitized First Byurakan Survey database is presented. Both objects are CH type giants, consequently at distances 6.3 and 5.2 kpc from the Sun.

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